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ABSTRACT

Moving away from the "tips for teaching" approach, this book reflects on the practice of teaching in human life. Part 1 discusses the meaning of the verb to teach. In this part, chapter 1 explores teaching as a moral dilemma, tracing some of the historical journey, chapter 2 draws from examples of teaching in the nonhuman world as in communal and nonverbal forms, and chapter 3 describes the physical design of teaching. Part 2 explores the languages of teaching. In this part, chapter 4 explores rhetorical forms of speech such as story telling and preaching, chapter 5 discusses the therapeutic languages, and chapter 6 discusses languages that call language itself into question. Part Three examines the implications for education. Chapter 7 reflects on the meaning of education in the context of what teaching is, drawing correlations between forms of speech in teaching and forms of speech in education. Chapter 8 focuses on the school and forms of teaching within it. Chapter 9 tests the proposed moral solution to extend the argument to the teaching of morality. The book concludes with its original thesis by contrasting the two meanings of to teach: "to teach is to explain" and "to teach is to show how to live." (LH)

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